Attorney's Docket No. 5175-92IP

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Hebrank et al. Serial No.: 09/008,664

Examiner: A. Merlino

Art Unit: 2877

For:

Filed: 16 January 1998

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR

SELECTIVELY INJECTING POULTRY EGGS

Date: 19 November 1998

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

The following is in response to the Official Action dated 20 August 1998. The Examiner's concerns are addressed below in the order presented in the Official Action.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-27 without prejudice or disclaimer thereto.

Please amend the claims as follows:

28. (amended) An automated apparatus for selectively injecting avian eggs, comprising: classifier means for classifying an egg as suitable for injection or as not suitable for injection;

signaling means for generating a classification signal that indicates whether an egg is suitable for injection or not suitable for injection, said signaling means operatively connected with said classifier means;

conveying means for conveying a plurality of eggs [in a fixed relationship] past said classifier means;

control means for controlling injection of each of said eggs, said control means [for]